



BANNER & WITCOFF, LTD.
INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY LAW

601 SW SECOND AVENUE, # 1900
PORTLAND, OREGON 97204

TEL: 503.425.6800

FAX: 503.425.6801

www.bannerwitcoff.com

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| To: Examiner J. Kavanaugh | FROM: Byron S. Kuzara |
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| NAME: Lesa Wolman | PHONE: 503-425-6800 |
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Attached is a Response to Restriction Requirement, and a Preliminary Amendment.

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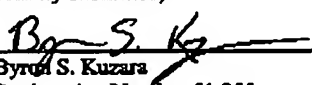
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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted by facsimile to the United States Patent and Trademark Office at telephone number (703) 872-9306 on December 1, 2004.

Respectfully submitted,


By: Byron S. Kuzara
Registration Number 51,255
Banner & Witcoff, Ltd.

PATENT**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

| | | |
|------------------------------------|---|---------------------------------|
| <i>In re</i> Application of |) | |
| |) | Group Art Unit: 3728 |
| James MESCHTER |) | |
| |) | Examiner: Kavanaugh, J. |
| Serial Number 10/609,010 |) | |
| |) | Attorney Reference 005127.00302 |
| Filed: June 30, 2003 |) | |
| |) | |
| For: ARTICLE AND METHOD FOR LASER- |) | |
| ETCHING STRATIFIED MATERIALS |) | |

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
Alexandria, VA 22313

Sir:

This Preliminary Amendment is being submitted with a Response to Restriction Requirement, in which claims 1-11 are withdrawn from consideration. Prior to examination on the merits, please amend the above-captioned application as follows: